



POWERED BY

PURPOSE

2024

Fall 2022
Progress Update



JOHNSON & WALES
UNIVERSITY



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2024

Fall 2022



As we begin a new academic year, the Johnson & Wales community is excited to usher in a new class of Wildcats and welcome back faculty, staff and students to campus.

Since the Fall 2021 launch of **POWERED BY PURPOSE 2024**, we have been concentrating our efforts to achieve the initiatives outlined in the university's new strategic plan. Through the work we are doing today, we are creating the pathways that will position Johnson & Wales for a successful and enriching future for our students and our graduates.

As we begin the second year of our 10-year master strategic plan known as the *Powered By* series, we have made great strides forward as we focus on academics, industry and our communities. We are proud of what we have been able to accomplish during the first year of **POWERED BY PURPOSE 2024** and will continue to build on our success in year two.

Guided by **POWERED BY PURPOSE 2024**, we continue to advance our reputation of academic excellence through successful accreditations and the creation of new business and health programs.

Our industry ties have deepened through the establishment of college advisory councils, and our Guild Education collaboration has now opened the door to the Disney workforce.

By right-sizing our university system, our debt has been reduced, our endowment is more robust, and there is new revenue to invest in the Providence and Charlotte campuses. Looking to the future, we are well positioned to deliver on our founders' mission to provide students with an excellent education to reach their fullest potential, whether that student is enrolled in Providence, Charlotte, or virtually through the College of Professional Studies.

Our commitment to providing quarterly updates keeps us informed and accountable for the progress of our work. As we engage with the university community and beyond, we remain one JWU united by our mission and powered by purpose.

Forever JWU,



Mim L. Runey, LPD.
Chancellor



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EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE ROOTED IN EXCELLENCE

Johnson & Wales University is powered by a belief that every student deserves a high-quality education that can prepare them for success in a meaningful career. Through **PURPOSE 2024**, the university is taking intentional steps to embrace a teacher-scholar model, strengthen the student experience, and celebrate scholarship and research.

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

- ◆ Key accreditations and industry partnerships
- ◆ Faculty participation in relevant professional boards, development, scholarships, speaking opportunities, and related endeavors
- ◆ Appropriate faculty credentials
- ◆ Signature college events and engagements
- ◆ The pursuit of external grants to enhance the academic experience
- ◆ A strong portfolio of student services

KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Launching New Academic Programs

At the Providence Campus, Exercise and Sports Science and Cannabis Entrepreneurship programs were added to the academic portfolio for the Fall 2021 semester. New academic offerings in 2022 include Operations and Supply Chain Management, and Healthcare Administration.

At the Charlotte Campus, Health Science and Public Health programs were launched in 2021; planning is underway for Exercise and Sports Science and Healthcare Administration programs to be offered in 2023.

The Providence Campus has received State of Rhode Island approval to launch an accelerated bachelor's degree in Nursing for students who possess a bachelor's degree in another field and are seeking to start a new career; the university is aggressively working to secure approval in North Carolina for the Charlotte Campus to offer this program too.



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Accreditations

The Physician Assistant Program (M.S.P.A.S.) was granted Accreditation-Continued status by the Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant Inc. (ARC-PA).

The Accrediting Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE) granted the Status of Accreditation to JWU's Occupational Therapy Doctoral (OTD) program.

Distinctive Designations

The National Security Agency and the Department of Homeland Security have designated Johnson & Wales University as a **National Center of Academic Excellence in Cyber Defense Education**.

The College of Food Innovation & Technology is celebrating 50 years of culinary education with seminars, guest speakers, and events featuring industry leaders, alumni, faculty and students. A signature event this fall is the **Food Entrepreneur in Residence program** that was launched in 2021 with celebrity Chef Tyler Florence '94, '02 Hon. and continues this year with JWU alumna and member of the Board of Trustees, Chef Lorena Garcia '00, '14 Hon. She will mentor undergraduate students to develop new start-up food businesses as part of a competition-based Future Food All Stars project.

During the 2021–22 academic year, the College of Hospitality Management also celebrated 50 years of hospitality education. To recognize this milestone, the college hosted a **50th Anniversary Symposium** that included lectures and events broadcast to the Providence and Charlotte campuses, as well as live lectures, seminars and socials featuring industry leaders, alumni, faculty and students. A signature JWU event — the Visiting Industry Professional speaker series — featured Chip Wade '83, '06 Hon., a member of the JWU Board of Trustees who was named CEO of Union Square Hospitality Group (USHG) this summer.

The College of Health & Wellness launched the **Undergraduate Research Center** (URC) as part of a three-year National Institutes of Health (NIH) sponsored research grant, hosting its first seminar and reception for faculty interested in exploring research funding. A task force was created to develop a plan for undergraduate research across all colleges and campuses. Associate Professor Samantha Rosenthal, Ph.D., was appointed director of undergraduate research to lead these efforts.



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In a competitive application process, the American Association of Colleges & Universities (AAC&U) accepted JWU into the yearlong **Curriculum to Career Innovation Institute** that is focused on enhancing our experiential education model in each major:

The Charlotte Campus has launched the **Innovation & Entrepreneurship Center** that supports students and the community, including local North Carolina high schools, by providing access to resources, expertise, and teacher training. Through a major gift from Dennis Thompson '18 Hon., support will be provided for speakers and funding for students.

Enhancing the Student Experience

The university is launching a holistic student experience called **JWU360** comprised of four areas: Nutrition & Wellness, Experiential Learning, Academic Exploration & Discovery, and Social & Community Responsibility. This new initiative is rooted in our foundation and experience in food, nutrition, health and wellness, thus setting the university apart in terms of our holistic approach to student success.

The **First-Year Seminar pilot program** in both Providence and Charlotte was launched this fall to support first-year students' retention and success.

The director of first-year experiences, Heather Harrison, was hired through the Predominantly Black Institutions (PBI) grant to support both campuses in building the first-year seminar program and coordinate orientation and other new initiatives in Charlotte. The university has been notified by the U.S. Department of Education that the PBI Grant has been renewed for Project Year 2.

The **Faculty Mentor program** launched in the fall of 2021 in Providence has been well received by students; these faculty mentors will support students throughout their four-year journey. Building on this success, the Charlotte Campus will have a training program this year for faculty mentors followed by the formal launch of the Faculty Mentor program in the fall of 2023.



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SHAPING AND STRENGTHENING INDUSTRIES

Since its founding in 1914, Johnson & Wales University has been powered by its connection to industry. Through **PURPOSE 2024**, we are building on existing partnerships and establishing new ones.

JWU is strengthening its ties with industry through the establishment of **College Advisory Councils**. Comprised of industry leaders who meet to advise the deans on policy and planning, the council members also serve as advocates and ambassadors of the college and participate in fundraising. The College of Food Innovation & Technology (CFIT) has led the way with its **15-member council**.

Johnson & Wales has deepened its relationship with Ecolab with **The Ecolab Center for Culinary Science**, connecting our labs, services and training with the wider food science industry. The 2021–22 Ecolab executive-in-residence was Elaine Black, Ph.D., director of food safety and public health for Ecolab. CFIT Dean Jason Evans, Ph.D., will be the keynote speaker at the Ecolab Food Safety Conference in October 2022.

The Center's mission is to support food entrepreneurs and the food industry with their innovation needs from product development to nutritional labeling, basic laboratory analysis, and more.

To increase the pipeline of qualified educators in Rhode Island's capital city, JWU announced a new **partnership with the Providence Public School Department (PPSD)** to offer discounted tuition for master's and doctoral-level education degree programs to qualified PPSD individuals including administrators, teachers, staff and volunteers.

Through the Guild Education, our culinary programming is now part of **DisneyAspire**, Walt Disney's education investment program that pays 100% tuition upfront.





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STRONG INSTITUTIONAL FOUNDATION

PURPOSE 2024 recognizes that while financial stewardship is essential to maintaining a strong institutional foundation, it is the people and human capital within the organization that are the bedrock of every lasting institution.

RIGHT-SIZING

The university has been strategic in right-sizing facilities to reflect current student and employee needs through the sales of excess properties and the elimination of certain leased spaces. This summer, Johnson & Wales sold the Renaissance residence hall located one mile away from the Downcity Campus in Providence and the City View Towers residence hall at the Charlotte Campus.

This right-sizing has resulted in revenue that allowed us to reduce debt, make key investments in our endowment, and help fund new and existing institutional needs.

The interest on JWU debt will be reduced from \$6 million in FY2019 to \$1.3 million in FY2023, with leases being reduced by \$3.8 million during this time period. The additional investment in the endowment has increased our projected annual earnings from \$12 million to almost \$17 million by FY2025. Combined, these changes help us fund salary increases this year for eligible staff and faculty and supported the reinstatement of the 401k contributions.

This news was well received by Moody's, one of the university's bonding agencies, which revised its outlook to stable for Johnson & Wales.

FUNDRAISING

The university's fundraising efforts have also supported operational needs via the university's annual day of giving; oneJWU: 24 hours; and End of the Fiscal Year campaign. Through the generosity of more than 2,800 donors, nearly \$3 million has been raised in support of our students. We are grateful for the many donations we have received including \$227,345 from the Davis Foundation for the Faculty Center for Academic Excellence in Innovation.

The university remains committed to offering the right levels of financial support for students and families needing assistance. JWU students received more than \$109 million in institutional aid in FY2022. We assisted students in securing an additional \$20 million in federal and state funding and distributed over \$19 million in COVID relief funds.



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The university is transitioning its accounting and budget software from the current multi-system platform to Oracle Cloud, a single and integrated solution. By streamlining processes, increasing automation and improving data collection, this enhanced technology supports our ability to maintain the university's strong financial foundation.

CULTURE AND REPUTATION

Through **PURPOSE 2024**, we are bolstering a campus culture that takes pride in what it means to be a Wildcat. We are purposeful in our storytelling to raise public awareness of the impact Johnson & Wales University has on local economies, civic culture and industry.

The university is engaging top-tier marketing resources to elevate Johnson & Wales' strengths and what sets us apart. SimpsonScarborough has been selected from a robust pool of higher education marketing agencies to assist us with our work. Their engagement with JWU began in May 2022 and will continue through the spring of 2023.

New initiatives have been launched to keep the JWU community connected and informed. The **Chancellor's Snack and Chats** are bringing together senior administration with individual departments and colleges on the Providence Campus. Plans are in place to roll out this programming in Charlotte in the coming academic year.

The university also introduced the **Powered by Purpose: Unplugged series**— quarterly, longer-form conversations for the larger JWU community to meet various university leaders and learn what fuels their commitment to, and passion for, their work.

The university is now utilizing **jwuLink**, an online resource platform for students, faculty and staff. This portal allows university members a one-stop shop for university resources, uplifting stories, events and important information — a place to build awareness and culture.

University Communications created a comprehensive presentation detailing high-level talking points that aim to help staff and faculty feel connected and comfortable with sharing the JWU experience and the university's growth plans, which can be found on **jwuLink**.

In November 2021, JWU began a **partnership with Culture Amp**, a global pioneer of real-time employee feedback and analytics, to develop and implement a confidential employee experience survey. Feedback from faculty and staff is important and helps us identify what is going well and where we have opportunities to improve the overall JWU employee experience.





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The results of that first-ever survey have been shared with employees and the work to maintain our strengths and seize opportunities to improve is ongoing.

The university conducted a **Diversity, Equity, Inclusion (DEI) survey** earlier this year and, after completing a comprehensive analysis, will share findings and information that will be incorporated into our daily work.

In spring of 2022, an **external engagement survey** was conducted to learn the scope of faculty and staff involvement in community organizations. The results are being reviewed as the university develops an outreach plan that will seek appropriate JWU representation on boards, commissions and other entities that align with JWU's mission.

The Charlotte Campus continues to support career and technical education (CTE) in the community through activities including

- ◆ Hosting an event for local hospitality career and technical educators, providing them guidance on how to teach their students new standards established by North Carolina in Restaurant Management
- ◆ Participating in a yearlong CTE initiative with Rea Farms STEAM Academy in hospitality for sixth-through-eighth-grade students
- ◆ Organizing and hosting a SEEM Industry Awareness Day for Charlotte Mecklenburg Sports CTE high school student

At the May 2022 annual gathering of the National Restaurant Association, JWU faculty were featured in three sessions:

- ◆ "The Allure of Spirit-Free Alternatives," presented by Michael Sabitoni '90, '92 M.S., associate professor and department chair in the College of Hospitality Management and Martin Murch '90, chef/partner of the Good Eats Group in Chicago
- ◆ "Supply Chain Disruption & Impact Mitigation," presented by Brian Warrener, associate professor in the College of Hospitality Management
- ◆ "Understanding and Finding Solutions to the Persistent Labor Crisis in Foodservice," presented by James Griffin, Ed.D., '88, '92 M.S., professor in the College of Hospitality Management



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Charlotte, North Carolina

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